



State Board of Equalization

# News Release

**Vice Chair Michelle Steel**

**3<sup>rd</sup> District – Orange County**

Cynthia Bridges  
Executive Director  
[www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov)

**For Immediate Release**  
**November 26, 2013**

**Contact:** NR 124-13-S  
**Jaime Garza**  
**1-916-327-8988**

## **Free Newport Beach Small Business Fair**

**Sacramento** – Business owners, entrepreneurs, and individuals who would like to start a business are invited to attend a free small business fair in Newport Beach on Thursday, December 5, 2013. California State Board of Equalization (BOE) Vice Chair Michelle Steel, The American Legion Post 291, ArmedForce2Workforce, and the California Economic Council are sponsoring this event.

Those looking for assistance with state and federal tax laws, the benefits of hiring veterans, as well as those who want to expand their business knowledge, will benefit from presentations given by representatives from the BOE, Internal Revenue Service, Franchise Tax Board, Employment Development Department, U.S. Small Business Administration, The American Legion Post 291, ArmedForce2Workforce, and the California Economic Council.

**Event:** Free Newport Beach Small Business Fair

**Date:** Thursday, December 5, 2013

**Time:** 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.  
(Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m.)

**Place:** The American Legion  
Newport Harbor Post 291  
215 15<sup>th</sup> Street  
Newport Beach, CA 92663

**Registration:** [www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/sbf.htm](http://www.boe.ca.gov/sutax/sbf.htm) or call 1-888-847-9652

Learn more about a variety of other BOE [in-person classes](#) and [online seminars](#).

**Editor's note:** *The following PSAs (15-second audio) and (30-second audio) are available for your use.*

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Elected to the Board of Equalization in 2006 and re-elected in 2010, Michelle Steel serves as *Southern California's elected taxpayer advocate*. In December 2007, Steel discovered the Board of Equalization had delayed the return of millions of dollars in security deposits owed to California businesses. Procedures were changed due to Steel's decisive leadership. Following her investigation, the tax agency refunded tax security deposits to over 5,500 small businesses. To date, over \$100 million in security deposits have been returned to taxpayers.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization (BOE) is a publicly elected tax board. The BOE collects more than \$50 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit [www.taxes.ca.gov](http://www.taxes.ca.gov).

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